

Alton - East St. Louis - Edwardsville  
**the ALESTLE**

September 24, 2015

Vol. 68 No. 5

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# NEWS

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Thursday, September 24, 2015

## Provost hires 28 new tenure-track faculty members: SIUE still awaiting Illinois state appropriation budget

BRIANA STEWART  
Alestle Reporter

Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Parviz Ansari has recently hired 28 new tenure-track faculty members to the university.

"Every year, we have those faculty members that qualify to submit their applications for tenure and promotion to the next level," Ansari said. "So this year, like any year, we've done our jobs, and it is very comforting to know that we are making the biggest investment on campus by bringing the talent of the faculty members we have ... to the university on a permanent basis."

According to Ansari, tenure is an official status that grants a faculty member permanent employment for a specific amount of time.

"When you hire faculty members on a tenure-track basis, they go through a university process," Ansari said. "We have established policies on that, and my job is making sure that policy is going to work according to the rules and regulations of the university."

Ansari said the new tenure-track faculty members are a big step for SIUE, and these professors will help a number of programs meet essential needs of the university. Nevertheless, the provost still believes there are departments and programs still needing tenure-track faculty to assist in meeting future goals. These decisions are based on a variety of elements, such as the needs of the university's programs, the enrollment process and the availability of the budget for the programs.

"What's so special this year is that we are having 28 tenure-track faculty members approved for 2016," Ansari said. "The reason why we have such a big number is because of the needs of the programs. We have to make sure that there is a balance in the number of full-time [faculty members] verses part-time faculty members on campus as we remain committed to the students' education."

Despite Ansari's overwhelming support and excitement for the new faculty hires and promotions, he said there is still some anticipation about SIUE's budget for the next fiscal year. Our university is still waiting on Illinois' decision regarding our state appropriation and any financial cuts.

"Everybody's anxious on campus since our operation partly depends on the state's funding ... if the funding is subject to cut, then can we plan long-term?" Ansari said. "Obviously, you have to have certain funding available to meet the commitments that you have to your faculty and staff members in terms of their salaries and beyond. We're waiting for the state to tell us what's happening for this year's funding. The selection of the faculty members — of new faculty members — for next fall is subject to having funds. In other words, we did not choose to search unless we knew we had funding for those people in the future, so that is the commitment that we have. But at the same time, it's a balancing act.

We have to make sure that we are not over committing ourselves, and hopefully not under committing ourselves ... making sure that we are planning the best for the future of the university."

### Budget balancing act

Budget Director Bill Winter said, "We find ourselves in a challenging position right now. I've been at the university for about 20 years ... I've been in this job as budget director for about 12 years, and this is probably the most uncertain time we've ever had."

As budget director, Winter has overseen all of SIUE's annual budgets. Winter explained that each budget is broken into two parts: appropriated funds, which we receive from the state of Illinois, and income funds, which

and we're also trying to increase our cash reserves."

### State Appropriation

Over the past 12 to 15 years, SIUE's state appropriation has decreased every year, averaging at about an 8 percent budget cut from one year to the next. However, as SIUE continues to grow in enrollment, these budget cuts are beginning to show. Recently, Gov. Bruce Rauner's recommended budget actually suggested a 31.5 percent budget cut for this fiscal year, which is 3.5 times higher than our university has ever dealt with before.

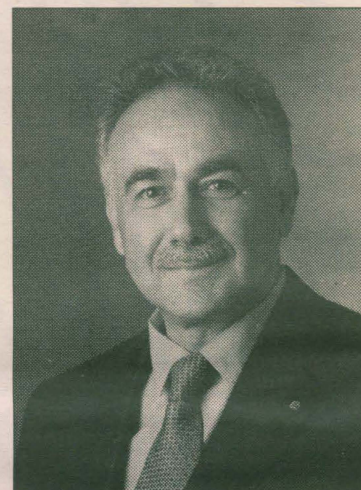
Luckily, the governor's recommended budget is not our official finalized budget.

"It's about step three in a four-step process," Winter said in reference to the governor's recom-

levels of uncertainty we have right now with our state appropriation budget — and it's not just us, it's every Illinois public university — it does make it a little bit more difficult to try to plan long-term. We're trying to balance everything."

When asked about the state budget's relevancy and importance to SIUE's new faculty hires and promotions, Ansari said despite these possible financial drawbacks, it is vital to the academic mission of SIUE and its commitment to educational excellence to continue to hire tenure-track faculty in key and strategic areas. The new hires will stand, regardless of possible state budget cuts.

"I'm very privileged to be in the position to authorize the hiring of that many faculty members this year," Ansari said. "I'm



Provost Parviz Ansari  
| Photo via siue.edu

versity. "You cannot succeed without teamwork," Ansari said.

### Student-first mentality

In order to stay knowledgeable and credible in his decision to approve these 28 tenure-track faculty members, the provost asked each of the deans to create a list of priorities for all of their academic units. Ansari carefully reviewed these priorities, while also considering the potential cuts to the state appropriation for this hiring cycle.

"We are here for the students first, and we are here to make sure that we bring the talent and expertise to educate our students for the future work force," Ansari said. "This job is never done, and we have to think about the future. SIUE is a proud institution. I'm very proud, not only to be here, but to be in an organization that cares so much about the students, and in that regard it means we ought to remain committed to the mission of the university in a meaningful way."

Ansari said he believes our tenure and tenure-track faculty members give students more scholarly opportunities such as research, outside-of-the-classroom projects and other positive activities that require consultation and mentorship. Tenure appointment, while it's a privilege for each faculty member, also gives students a variety of benefits in their education. Professors play a major role in mentoring the students, especially in hands-on experience.

"Job security is important for teachers to be able to be themselves and get information across to students," said senior special education major Hannah Lee. "Without it, teachers are fearing what's going to happen to their jobs, or what's going to happen next. As a student, I want teachers to be comfortable and to teach me to the best of their ability. They shouldn't have to worry about job security."

Although each academic program has an outlined document of formal commonalities and expectations, faculty members aiming to apply for tenure are required to participate in three major areas of focus: scholarship, teaching and service.

Read more about tenure and budget online at [alestlelive.com](http://alestlelive.com).

**“When I first started here, for every dollar a student paid, the state was paying \$2.84, so almost \$3. Now, for every dollar a student pays, the state pays \$0.67 — big shift.”**

Bill Winter  
Budget Director

originate from tuition revenue. Any money that SIUE collects must be spent on exactly what it's collected from; for example, athletic fees are poured back into the athletic department, while parking tickets pay for updated parking lots.

"When I first started here, for every dollar a student paid, the state was paying \$2.84, so almost \$3," Winter said. "Now, for every dollar a student pays, the state pays \$0.67 — big shift."

Despite the fact that we are three months into this fiscal year, SIUE has still not received an official budget from the state of Illinois.

"We have to keep paying our bills. We have to pay faculty and staff, and we have to pay for the utilities for air conditioning in the summer, heat in the winter, electricity ... but we're not actually receiving any money from the state. It's all a balancing act, and it's hard to find instantaneous savings right off front."

Employees are required to be notified well in advance if there were to be layoffs or loss of tenure.

"Who knows what will happen? We don't know, but certain things take time," Winter said. "You can't just instantly get savings. We've been very conservative, and it's a balancing act of priorities. I wish we didn't have to charge anything in order to educate students, but we wouldn't be able to pay our bills. We have tried to be cost-effective and affordable for students ... while also trying to figure out everything that's happening with the state budget. We've had hiring-freezes; we've had spending restrictions. We've waited to purchase certain things,

mended budget. "We have no idea what it's going to be. I've talked to the people that work with our legislators in Springfield, and nobody knows. The problem is, if we got that 31.5 percent budget cut, it could be in between 19 and 20 million dollars cut from our budget."

According to Winter, SIUE's highest state appropriation ever received was in fiscal year 2002, and since then the university has lost \$13 million.

"And that's not even adjusted for inflation," Winter said.

### Employment security

However, despite these increases in budget cuts, faculty members are still ensured their jobs, as well as their tenure-track statuses. When asked if these budget cuts would lead to any employment or tenure losses, Winter said, "I'm not aware of any scenario where that could happen ... the reason we're trying to hire these faculty members is because other folks are retiring or leaving, so the salaries [they were receiving] are now open to pay the new people. It's not like we're just having to come up with new money; it's trying to guess, if we have to cut, how far do we have to go?"

Once a faculty member is awarded tenure, according to SIUE's policies there have to be major financial issues in order to actually eliminate jobs — much worse than what we are experiencing now.

"The biggest challenge, from my perspective is the uncertainty that we face," Winter said. "Prior to coming here, I worked at several corporations, and you try to do long-term, strategic planning ... but when you have some of the

very honored to be in a position to work with so many dedicated folks on campus. We do have anticipation of budget cuts from the state of Illinois, but we should remain resolved and committed to who we are and what we are in the future."

### Increased enrollment

"Over the last 12 to 15 years, we've added several thousand students," Winter said.

An increase in enrollment means an increase in faculty, as well.

"When you add more students, you also have to add faculty. Everybody I work with really cares about trying to provide a quality education, and that's what our goal is ... we have, as our highest priority, to make an affordable, quality education for students, and that involves having faculty in the classroom. When we hire those people, there are plans to keep them."

However, Ansari said he also believes there are several factors involved in making a decision like this, such as alignment with the mission of the university, enrollment in certain programs, accreditation requirements and the needs of those programs moving forward.

Ansari said he recognizes that adding new tenure-track faculty members and hiring on new professors is a university-based conversation, including numerous voices and multiple channels of input from as many colleagues as possible. The provost compared this process to a domino effect. Information including the needs and wants of all departments are collected from the leadership positions of different levels in the uni-



# Impending budget cuts cause reform for Lovejoy Library

JESSICA ORANIKA  
Alestle Reporter

SIUE's Library and Information Services are scrambling to prepare for impending budget cuts. According to the Dean of Library and Information Services Regina McBride, the budget has not been agreed upon as of yet. However, they are aware that they will receive less funding than they have in previous years.

"The governor was proposing a fairly high percentage cut for education," McBride said. "The state of Illinois is at an impasse; the governor's office and the legislators have not agreed on a budget. We know we're going to get cut [but] we don't know the extent of it at this time."

The library still is not sure when its new budget will be set. McBride said she thought the budget would have already been set considering the current budget cycle began on July 1. Although the library isn't certain of how much its cuts will be, it has already started to prepare for them. The library has had to refrain from filling some faculty and staff positions, and has not renewed subscriptions on certain lesser-known electronic resources.

"We have a number of faculty and staff positions that we are unable to fill given the fact that there may be some pretty severe cuts. We also have a few electron-

ic resources whose subscriptions aren't being renewed. We've had to cut some of the smaller titles already. We haven't had to eliminate any of the larger titles," McBride said.

Although employing less faculty and staff is saving the library money, it is creating numerous other problems. The remaining librarians have to pull more weight due to the lack of teaching staff. The library is also open for more than 100 hours a week, which means that it is short-staffed a majority of the time.

"We have an information resources desk that we man, and we also teach library instruction. A number of the positions that we have available are library faculty — the ones that do the teaching. The remaining librarians have had to double up on their workload to get us through this period of uncertainty so that we can do everything we can to not cut back on our services," McBride said.

Certain library services including their operation hours have already been cut back. In previous years, the library closed at 1 a.m., but now it closes at 11 p.m.

Senior exercise science major Zachary Kadiri, of Chicago, who uses the library about three times a week, said he is disappointed with the cuts in library hours and that it creates an inconvenience. He said he hopes the hours do not get cut any shorter.

"That's really messed up. I really don't want to go to the Student Success Center to study late [at] night. Later in the year it gets crowded, and there's already limited study rooms available," Kadiri said.

If the budget is cut even further, McBride said she is afraid that hours and important resources may face further cuts. In addition, other resources will have to be limited or cut out completely.

"We are a very frugal operation to begin with. We have done some downsizing over the last eight years. If we get a budget with major cuts from the state, we will have to look at cutting more critical resources and running without sufficient faculty and staff," McBride said. "It was a year or so ago that we had to cut library hours. All of our major resources are electronic, which makes it easier for students to use remotely. [This] is especially important if we have to cut hours because people still have access to our resources when the library is closed."

McBride said the cuts are happening because the state simply does not have the money. As businesses leave Illinois and people move out of the state, revenue from tax dollars decrease, which reduces the amount of funding the state government can allot.

"[Illinois is] losing businesses — a number of large businesses are moving to different states

[and] the population is moving away from Illinois in some areas," McBride said.

McBride said she is optimistic about the eventual return of state resources, though they probably will not return to the quantity they once were. She affirms that things are not looking very good for the next couple of years.

"I absolutely believe that the revenue for the state will improve, but I don't know that it will ever come back to the extent that it was 20 years ago. I suspect that this year and next year will be tough years for higher education," McBride said.

Currently, there are no library fees for using the library. The only items students pay for directly are damaged items and printing costs. According to McBride, a few dollars from each student would be a tremendous help, however she is reluctant to propose a library fee because students may not like that.

"Another thing to consider, and I hate to say it because it adds burden to the students, is a library fee. Many academic libraries have one, but we do not. No student wants to hear about fees and I understand that. I've held off on suggesting to the university administration that we go forth in that direction because I really don't want to put this on the backs of the students. Just a few dollars from each student could make a huge difference,"

McBride said.

Most students, including Kadiri, wince at the idea of a library fee. However, upon hearing about the library's budget situation, Kadiri said that a modest library fee would be OK with him.

"I really don't want to pay anything. At the most, probably \$10 per student would be okay. I might even pay a little more," Kadiri said. "Some students don't use the library. I think that people who care about the library, use the library and see how important it is will contribute [donations]."

Senior applied communications major, Darius Smith, of Chicago, said he did not think students should have to pay a library fee. However, he thinks if students were informed of the library's situation, they would be willing to pay a small donation of \$1 to \$5.

"In my opinion, it would be ridiculous for there to be a library fee. Students shouldn't have to pay to use the library. To save library resources, books and keep people employed, I think \$1 to \$5 per student would be a reasonable fee for each student to pay," Smith said. "I think that getting the information out about budget cuts to the students and staff would help them want to participate in a fundraiser."

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# New sexual consent policy under scrutiny

MADISON O'BRIEN  
Alestle Reporter

"Yes means yes" is a new policy that could potentially become the standard of affirmative consent for date rape.

This policy implies that any type of sexual activity with the consent of both parties is completely legal. A few states' legislatures such as in California and New York have already adopted the policy and it is currently in effect on numerous college campuses.

The SIUE manual defines consent on SIUE campus as freely and knowingly giving agreement to the act of sexual conduct.

Consent is demonstrated through mutually understandable words or actions that clearly indicate a willingness to freely engage in sexual activity.

While consent can be given through words or actions, non-verbal consent is more ambiguous than explicitly stating one's wants and limitations.

Silence cannot be assumed to indicate consent. Lack of verbal or physical resistance or submission resulting from the use of force or threat of force by the accused does not constitute consent.

SIUE Police Lieutenant Dustin Brueggemann said the "yes means yes" policy is currently not in effect on campus.

"Consent has to be constant. People can give it and then take it away. Consent has to be continually given in each situation, so that the next day there are not two

different stories. A lot of people don't understand that a person who initially gives consent can withdraw it," Brueggemann said.

The reason the policy has only been implemented on a few campuses is because judges are ruling it unconstitutional.

"There are a lot of legal issues with the policy. Judges are saying because of lack of due process, the student has to prove they got consent instead of proving a person is guilty," Brueggemann said.

According to Brueggemann

sexual crimes.

"The biggest issue is that people don't report the offenses; sexual assaults are the nation's top unreported crime," Brueggemann said. "By implementing this, I don't think it will change that people don't report it."

Due to this fact, Brueggemann said he cannot put a specific number on how many sex crimes happen on campus due to lack of reporting.

In 2014, two sexual offenses were reported. In 2013, four were

will know what will happen later that night. It is too much to ask for people to sign a form before they go into a party because then it allows anyone to have sex with them," Heck said.

Heck said he believes it is sad that in today's society measures like this have to be taken.

"We should not be asking how we can prevent rape, but we need to ask ourselves why guys are not taught at a young age to ask for consent first," Heck said.

Heck said he agrees with Brueggemann's idea that it is wrong for someone to have to prove their innocence instead of someone proving they are guilty.

"I think we need to stay within the rights of our constitution when it states that everyone is innocent until proven guilty," Heck said.

Heck said he believes if the policy were brought onto campus, there would be a lot of resistance.

"There are always two sides to every story, and it would be a violation of privacy because it would be so hard to prove every time," Heck said.

Heck a member of the fraternity Sigma Phi Epsilon, also said his membership does not change his view on the issue.

"I see why frats are making women sign forms, but I just think it is too extreme. I feel like it would cause more controversy, because people can still argue they were drunk when they signed it," Heck said.

Sophomore exercise science major Bridgett Ausbury, of

DeKalb, said she does not think it should be implemented because it will put more people at risk than it will protect them.

"I definitely think it is unconstitutional, and people should be taught better to prevent rape rather than making people sign a consent form," Ausbury said.

Ausbury said she believes if the law were passed on campus, a lot of parties would not happen.

"I think a lot of people would be afraid to go out because it is tough to know where the line is drawn. There are a lot of flaws with it," Ausbury said.

Whether or not this policy will be implemented on campus in the future is unknown, but what is obvious is the controversy surrounding it.

"It is definitely a new way of thinking, and some think it's unfair, while others think it's a positive step in the right direction," Brueggemann said.

Students on campus can get involved by taking part in the "It's on Us" campaign.

The campaign is student-led and student-driven, with the goal in mind of promoting the understanding of what sexual assault means and how it negatively impacts society.

"It's on Us" gives students the opportunity to not only raise the awareness of the prevalence of sexual assault on campuses, but also to prevent attacks.

Read more about tenure and budget online at [alestlelive.com](http://alestlelive.com).

**"... people should be taught better to prevent rape, rather than making people sign a consent form."**

Bridgett Ausbury  
Sophomore exercise science major

he does not have a personal view on the policy because the SIUE police department does not have much information on the topic.

"I don't have a stance yet because I don't know enough about it, but I don't like the idea that someone has to prove that they are innocent instead of someone proving they are guilty," Brueggemann said.

Additionally Brueggemann said he does not believe that changing the language on the policy would increase reports of

reported and in 2012, one was reported.

Brueggemann said he has heard of colleges in California that have implemented the policy by making women sign consent forms before entering fraternity houses. SIUE students said they find this unreasonable.

Sophomore pre-med major Christian Heck, of St. Joseph, said he believes the policy is irrational.

"I think it's a little much to expect people to go to the lengths of signing a form thinking they

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# Vote approves change of two department names

KENDRA MARTIN  
Alestle Reporter

On Wednesday, Sept. 16, the Office of the Provost and the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior recently held an open meeting for faculty and students to discuss the decision of wanting to change the name of two departments: curriculum and instruction and kinesiology and health education to the Department of Teaching and Learning and the Department of Applied Health.

The department name change was voted on and approved through the university level, administrative level, school level and the department level. The paperwork has yet to be submitted, but there were no major issues or concerns regarding the decision to change the two department names, and the names of the department should be changed by

the start of the spring 2016 semester.

Interim Dean of the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior Curt Lox said there are two primary reasons for the name changes to be enacted.

"The first reason accurately reflects the focus and mission of the departments, and the second is some of the terminology in the names had simply become outdated, and we felt that the departments that were on the cutting-edge in terms of curriculum and research should also possess contemporary names," Lox said.

This is not the first time that the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior went through name changes. Previously, the school was known as the School of Education, but with a broader curriculum that extends past just education majors, the school decided to expand the title from the School of Education to

the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior.

"The reason why we decided to change the school name was because we have such diverse programs that extend beyond education," Lox said. "The school had an enrollment growth and the name change better reflects the school and the changing enrollment."

The basis of the name changes for the department is similar to the reasons the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior had for changing their name. It is to better reflect what the department has to offer in its curriculum so students can get a grasp of what it is that they are looking to study in.

The Office of the Provost and the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior want students to be able to know exactly what it is they are looking for and where they can find it.

"The name change better represents who we are and what we do," Lox said. "People would come to open houses and students did not know that we provided all these different programs of study because they were not looking in the right place."

The Office of the Provost and the School of Education, Health and Human Behavior want to keep up with incoming students. With the name change, they hope to attract more students to their department and to understand there is more to school than just the basis of education, health and human behavior.

"Curriculum and institution really doesn't mean much to a prospective student or parent," Lox said. "Teaching and learning on the other hand, is fairly obvious to everyone and that department includes every teacher education program within the school, including special education."

The department is going through changes that they feel would be a positive impact for the school. They feel as if these changes have been long overdue.

The department plans to use the name change as a way to display and acknowledge the many programs that the school has to offer to incoming and current students.

"The Department of Kinesiology and Health Education has changed so dramatically over the past decade that the current name simply wasn't sufficient to appropriately describe the vast programs we have here. Applied health is an appropriate description for a unit of programs in exercise science, nutrition, community and public health and speech pathology," Lox said.

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# University expects improvements in the near future

JESSICA ORANIKA  
Alestle Reporter

SIUE will soon receive many enhancements to its campus. Vice Chancellor of Administration Richard Walker is helping implement a plan to improve SIUE. The plan dubbed "The Facilities Master Plan 3" is 10-year plan in which SIUE will construct multiple buildings designed to improve the student experience.

Buildings proposed in the plan include a Science Building North, a City of Edwardsville fire station, parking lots, a health sciences complex, a military science complex, multiple athletic centers, three dormitories and many more projects. With at least 20 potential projects on the plan, Walker said it is a template for where future construction may begin.

"This is a road map for what SIUE's priorities are for new construction, and where they might be located on campus. This serves as our guide of where we will or won't use land," Walker said.

Walker said the board has decided against developing certain wooded areas such as SIUE's nature preserves. Since many classes including biology, engineering, art and many others use the area, the benefits of leaving it as is are greater than those of developing it. Furthermore, with 2,060 acres of land, SIUE has plenty of other space to use for development.

"We are imposing on ourselves to not build on the nature

reserve because we want to use it for other things. We have 2,060 acres of classroom here; we don't just sit here and develop all of it — we use it as part of the educational program of the university," Walker said.

Although the plan is nearing completion, none of it has been funded yet. It is ideal for the most important or beneficial projects to receive initial funding and begin construction; however, it's possible that the least expensive projects will be the first to begin construction. Walker said once the board has approved everything, Facilities Management will have to play a waiting game to see what will receive funding first.

"A lot of it depends on which one comes up with the money first. Some of the funding will come from the state, some of it will be grant funded and some of it will be privately funded. [In those that receive state funding] the board decides which one is most important and they have decided that the health sciences complex is the No. 1 priority," Walker said. "It consists of a nursing building, a pharmacy building and a joint building that would serve many of the health program's needs."

One of the new projects Facilities Management will begin, is the renovation of Woodland's roof. Although Woodland's roof hasn't shown any signs of damage or leakage yet, the 20-year-old roof is nearing the end of its warranty. Facilities Management would like

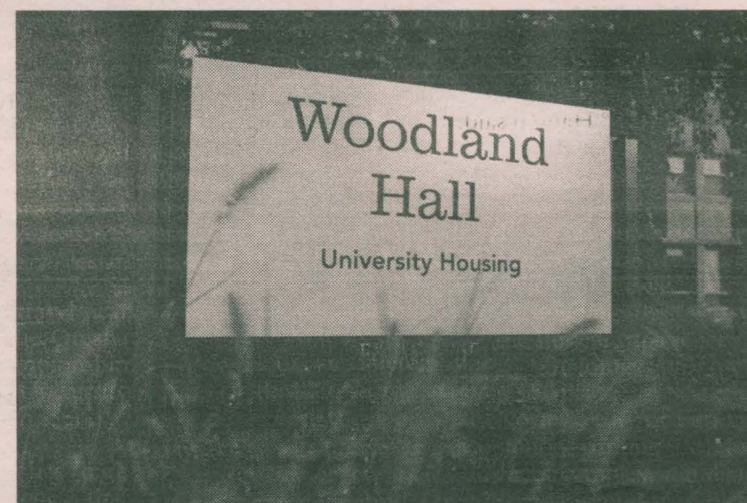
to have it replaced before serious problems develop. This, however, is not included in the Facilities Management Master Plan 3. Walker said the master plan is reserved for new construction. As Woodland's roof is merely a renovation, it will be done separately. Woodland's roof reconstruction is planned to begin in the summer of 2016.

"The renovation of Woodland Hall is a simple maintenance thing that has to be done every so often. In this case, the building is over 20 years old and the roof is at the end of its warranty and life expectancy. It's time to replace it before it starts leaking," Walker said. "You can imagine having a major leak in Woodland Hall this fall while students are living there, what a mess that would be. We plan on doing it next summer when it's empty so we don't disrupt anyone's lives."

One of the projects that SIUE is not waiting for funding for is the fire station. The City of Edwardsville is building and paying for that project on their own, in exchange for land to build on. This means that they can begin construction as soon as this fall.

"The city is going to build a fire station on our campus. They are paying for its construction and daily operation entirely by themselves. We're not involved other than to give them the land to do it," Walker said.

The last facilities master plan, which was implemented in 2007,



Facilities Management will be renovating the Woodland Hall roof in the near future.  
| Photo by Christian K. Lee/Alestle

gave SIUE students improvements such as the Student Success Center addition, the Student Fitness Center addition, the new Science Building and more.

"The last one we did was in 2007. From that we got the SSC addition, the Early Childhood Center addition, the new Engineering Building, the Art and Design Building and the new Science Building," Walker said.

Walker said he is happy to do whatever he can to enhance the student experience at SIUE. He takes pride in SIUE's record-breaking enrollment rates and said although he and Facilities Management can not take all of the credit for that. They do what they can to improve the learning environment

for students.

"We use these to improve the student experience at the university. We have the highest record enrollment right now and we're expecting small increments of growth over each year. It's not entirely the facilities. It has to do with a lot of our programs, feeling safe on campus, having great faculty and great core of employees on campus that are really committed to student education," Walker said.

Walker said that although they are waiting for funding, SIUE will begin trying to implement the plan as soon as they can.

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# News in brief

SIU President holds annual speech, addresses both universities

MICHAEL ORANIKA  
Alestle Reporter

SIU System President Randy Dunn held his annual "State of the System" speech on Tuesday, Sept. 22, in the Morris University Center's Meridian Ballroom.

In his speech, Dunn addressed what state budget cuts mean for the future of SIUE and how the university is entering a new era in which it is going to be faced with new issues such as state disinvestment, cost shifts and privatizations. Dunn stressed

changes such as enrollment and philanthropy growth as important ways of navigating this new age.

Look for more information regarding the Dunn's "State of the System" in the Alestle's next issue Oct. 1.

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# SIUE ranked among Top 50 Midwest public universities

**KENDRA MARTIN**  
Alestle Reporter

For the 12th consecutive year, SIUE has been named one of the top Midwest regional public universities, placing at 44th, three spots higher than last year by U.S. News and World Reports. SIUE has also been named one of the safest college towns in America, placing at 25th according to Safewise, a website that offers unbiased reviews in home security.

Interim Chancellor Stephen Hansen believes many thanks are in order for making the high rankings possible, including students, faculty, and the SIUE police department for the positive rankings that SIUE has received for 12 straight years.

"This is amazing for SIUE. I believe that the quality and the rigor of the education that we have to offer here at SIUE speak volumes. But the outstanding staff that we have here and the services that we provide are definitely why we keep receiving these rankings and I am appreciative of that," Hansen said.

Even with the positive rankings SIUE has received, Hansen said he believes there is room for improvement so SIUE can keep continuing to grow.

"We need to improve on our

retention rate and we have been doing a great job of doing that. It has grown to be 74.4 percent higher in the last 10 years, but I would like to see it continue rising," Hansen said. "We also need to work on getting our students through the curriculum in a timely way so that all of our students are able to graduate on time."

The U.S. News and World Reports is a media company that compiles various surveys from various institutions across America. They do a survey of the university presidents, an average in ACT scores, retention rate and how long it takes for students to graduate.

Along with being a part of the top 50 Midwest public schools, SIUE also takes pride in being one of the safest college towns in America as well according to the website Safewise.

SIUE has a constant police presence and emergency phones all across campus for whenever students need to get home or are in desperate need of police assistance. SIUE is also in the process of introducing a personal safety app called the Rave Guardian Personal Safety App.

"I never had a moment when I felt unsafe being here at SIUE," Kayla Finch, sophomore psychology major of Joliet, said, "The officers on campus are al-

ways available, and they are very fast responsive so I never really had that feeling like something bad was going to happen to me whenever I decided to go out."

Sophomore business major Nia Willis of Chicago, said, "That was one of the main reasons I decided to attend SIUE. The fact that I could get a great education while being far away from home, and still knowing that I am going to be safe while being on my own was one of the reasons I decided that SIUE was right for me."

Hansen said he is extremely proud of the outstanding work students and faculty have displayed and is excited for the future of SIUE and sees the university only getting higher and higher in ranking with every passing year.

"I hope that with the ranking, it makes us more attractive to students in terms of wanting to attend school here," Hansen said.

"With the ranking, I hope students will find out what an outstanding program we have here and what we have to offer. I would like to have more parents and incoming students understand that," Hansen said.

Kendra Martin can be reached at kmartin@alestlelive.com or 650-3525.

## POLICE BLOTTER

9-2-15

A Bluff Hall employee reported multiple phone calls since the night before from a male subject asking to speak to a student. He continued to call despite being told the student he was looking for was not a resident in Bluff hall. An officer contacted the caller and advised him to stop calling.

There was a verbal argument between a student and a cashier at the Cougar Commons Grill. The cashier felt threatened and requested the student does not come back.

Officers responded to a suspicious odor in Woodland Hall and conducted a consented search. Rickey Burris was arrested for unlawful possession of cannabis with the intent to deliver and was transported to the SIUE Police Department where he was processed. He was released with a notice to appear.

9-3-15

An office issued a state citation to Maria Ramirez for failure to yield to a pedestrian. The offense occurred at South University Drive and South Circle Drive.

Officers responded to the Science Building for an active fire alarm. At the same time, dispatch received a 911 call from a subject in 0185 stating he accidentally set off the alarm while soldering in his office.

Officers responded to P5 for a two vehicle accident. Minimal damage occurred.

An officer took a report of theft of prescription medication in Woodland Hall.

9-4-15

An officer responded to Cougar Village building 511 in response to a father requesting a welfare check on his daughter. The officer made contact with the subject who was just sleeping. The subject was advised to call her father. The area was secure.

An officer issued a state citation to Mitchell Jeffers for operation of uninsured motor vehicle and a written warning for speeding 58 mph in a 48 mph speed zone. The offense occurred on South University Drive at Stadium Drive.

An officer issued a state citation to Leon Mier for speeding 60 mph in a 45 mph speed zone. The offense occurred on South University Drive at Stadium Drive.

An officer issued a written warning to Ta'Mara Woodson

for speeding 48 mph in a 25 mph speed zone. The offense occurred on North University Drive at P10.

An officer issued a state citation to Savannah Hess for speeding 64 mph in a 45 mph speed zone. The offense occurred on South University Drive at Stadium Drive.

An officer responded to Building F regarding an employee stating there was a male subject sleeping in class. The subject was suspected to have been drinking. The officer made contact with the subject who was just sleeping and not drinking. The subject was advised to leave class for the day.

An officer issued a state citation to Makenna Kuhl for speeding 60 mph in a 45 mph speed zone. The offense occurred on South University Drive at Stadium Drive.

An officer issued a state citation to Brock Pontious for speeding 60 mph in a 45 mph speed zone. The offense occurred on South University Drive at Stadium drive.

An officer responded to Cougar Village for a suspicious item found near the stairs. The officer took possession of the item for evidence.

9-5-15

An officer met with a male subject who entered campus on a bicycle and entered Building C. The officer advised he was just using the restroom and left the building. The officer later found the subject in Building B and requested he leave campus.

Officers checked the area of Buildings A and B after a staff member reported a suspicious male talking to himself in the area. The officers were unable to locate the subject.

An officer responded to Cougar Village building 505 for an active fire alarm. The officer reported there was no smoke, fire or damage. The alarm was caused by a mechanical issue. The officer advised housing would be notified.

An officer responded to Cougar Village Commons regarding an 11-year-old child who was unable to locate his parents. The officers made contact with the subject's older sister in their apartment, and she advised the father was on a bike ride. The father was located, and the children were returned to him.

An officer responded to Woodland Hall for a welfare check on a student. The student stated she was fine and that the relative was overreacting.

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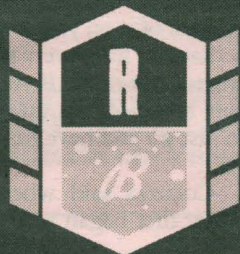
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## Experimental artists hit center stage during sixth annual X-Fest

JESSICA ORANIKA  
Alestle Reporter

SIUE's Department of Theater and Dance invites you to join them in X-Fest — an annual festival that showcases new, exciting work from around the country. Four performances will be held on four nights from Sept. 23 to Sept. 26 featuring SIUE alumnus Ernie Silva among the performers.

In addition to performing, the four groups will be holding workshops to showcase and share information with theater and dance students. According to Peter Cocuzza, head of the theater department, hands-on workshops are helpful in giving students a chance to interact with professionals in the fields they eventually hope to enter.

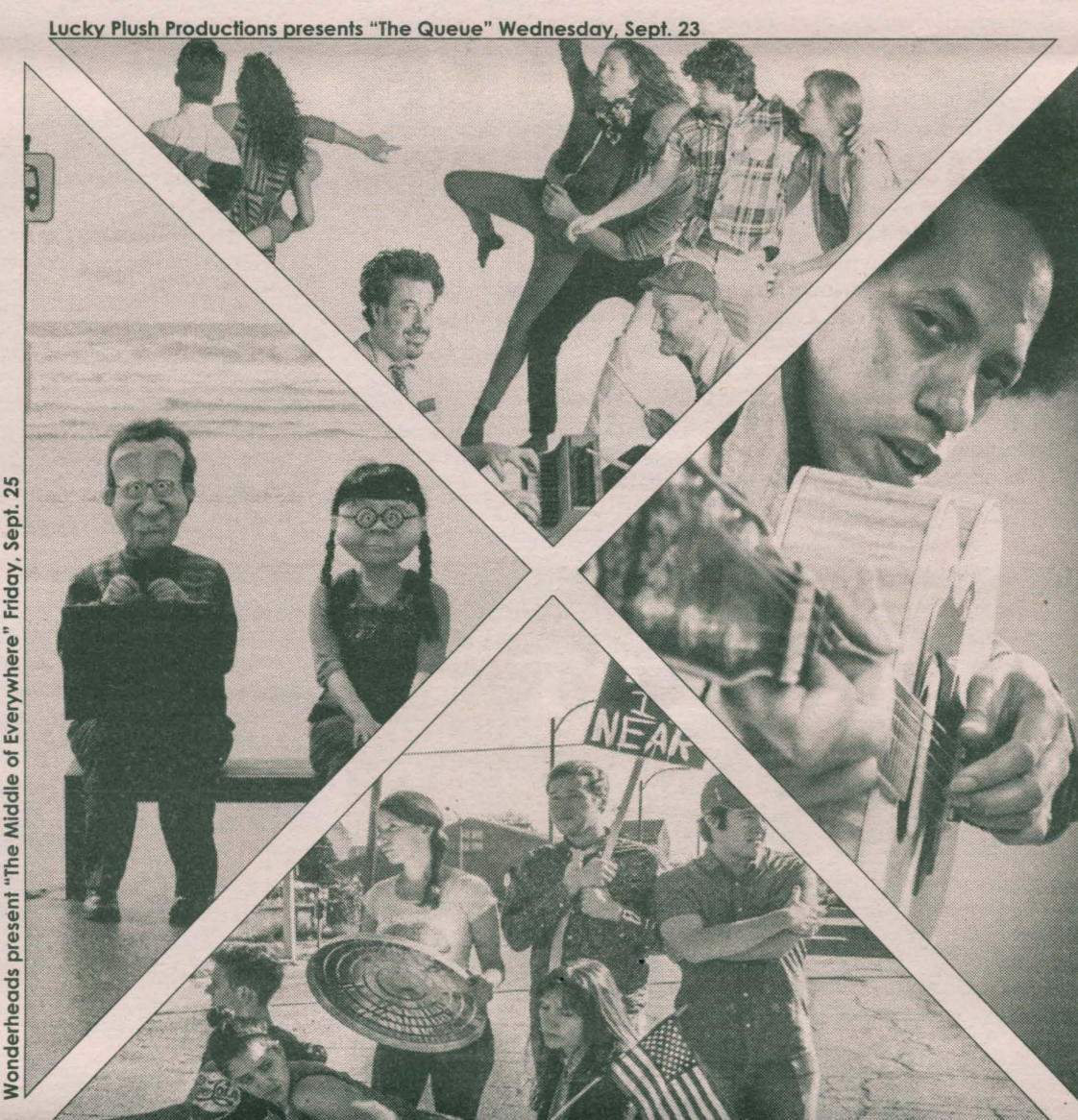
"It's a way for students to meet professionals in the fields that they would ideally be professionals in one day. The performers are holding workshops to share their knowledge. It's better than class — students get the dirt on what's really going on," Cocuzza said.

SIUE has hosted X-Fest for the past six years. According to Cocuzza, it was originally supposed to be a summer festival. However, enrollment is low during the summer months, which means many students would not be able to attend. They decided to switch the festival to the fall.

"This is our sixth year doing this. It was meant to be a summer festival but it turns out not enough students were on campus during the summer. A few years ago we moved it to September knowing more people would be on campus," Cocuzza said.

Professor and head of marketing for theater and dance Kim Bozark, said X-Fest gives SIUE a chance to present something new to its students.

"Chuck [Harper, theater and dance professor] really likes new work. He's really big on new artists and new things. This is an opportunity to bring in new cutting-edge things to show people — especially students who are going to become actors — what's out there right now," Bozark said. "We don't make these performances; we bring them in. They're from around the country and a lot of them are cutting-edge, experimental types of theater and dance groups. It's a great way for students to see what's go-



Lucky Plush Productions presents "The Queue" Wednesday, Sept. 23

Wonderheads present "The Middle of Everywhere" Friday, Sept. 25

Equally Represented Arts presents "The Residents of Craigslist" Thursday, Sept. 24

R. Ernie Silva presents "Roy G. Biv: A Story Through the Eyes of a Rock Icon" Saturday, Sept. 26

ing on out there right now in that industry."

X-Fest was created for multiple reasons. One of which is to give SIUE theater and dance a way to stand out.

"We started it as a way of finding something that made SIUE theater and dance unique. We are pretty unique when it comes to this event, and we're proud of that," Cocuzza said. "We're excited for students to come."

Other reasons to host X-Fest include introducing students to new and unconventional things.

"As a liberal arts school, we're here to expose students to as many different things as we can. [X-Fest includes] things we think that students should know about. It brings a different culture to campus," Cocuzza said.

Bozark said students benefit from seeing new things because it gets them thinking more creatively. They gain a broader view

of the world, allowing them to decide what they like, dislike or are inspired by.

"Anytime that you're hit with something that's outside of what you're used to, you'll have one of two responses. Either you'll say, 'What? That's stupid,' or you'll say, 'Wow, I hadn't thought of that.' Even taking something that we're used to and presenting it in a different way can make us appreciate the creative mind behind it," Bozark said.

Nursing and dance double major, Latavia Jo Harley, of St. Louis, said although she has not gone to X-Fest in the past, she has heard great things about it and plans on attending this year. She also said the main thing she hopes to see is something new or different.

"I haven't attended yet, but I've heard from other dancers that it's phenomenal. They're really excited that [it's] coming back to

SIUE. Typically SIUE focuses on ballet and modern [dance], so I'm really hoping to see something other than that," Harley said.

According to Harley, she is excited for the opportunities the workshops will provide her and other students. She said theater and dance students strive to gain as much diverse experience in different areas as they can, and this is a fun way to do so.

"I think it benefits students really well because if you were a dance major you would want to take all kinds of master classes. You would want to take everything there is, especially if you want to teach. You would be able to put all of it on your resume and say that you have every kind of experience out there. If you have an open and positive attitude, you can just go and have fun," Harley said.

Cocuzza said when he and Harper first began to plan X-Fest

they had no idea where the money for it would come from. Once they shared their ideas and gained support, they began to receive monetary backing as well. They don't hold this festival as a way to earn money for their department but as a way to help SIUE students.

"We didn't have money when we started. The university has been supportive because they believe in it. It's all paid for by Student Affairs. At first the money came from all different places, but now we have more of a steady stream. We don't really do it to make a profit. It's more of a service for students. If there is any profit, it's rolled over to next year," Cocuzza said.

The festival is free to all SIUE students with a valid student I.D. There are different rates for faculty members and alumni. Everyone in the area, student or otherwise, are encouraged to attend.

Bozark said although they are not necessarily expecting to make a large profit from the shows, it would be in their best interest to break even. The show is marketed to people in surrounding cities including Granite City, Glen Carbon and St. Louis.

According to Bozark, almost half of the attendees are not SIUE students.

"We get a lot of support from the College of Arts and Sciences but there's still a gap. Charging for tickets is earned income, and that can help close the gap. We're not so much into it to make money, but breaking even would be nice. We try to get people from off-campus to also come and see. Up to 45 percent of the people who attend are from off-campus," Bozark said.

Bozark said he believes X-Fest improves every year.

"[X-Fest] is like a good wine; it's improving with time. I think it's getting better every year. We're really getting an identity. There are people who are excited for it to come every year to see who we are going to have," Bozark said.

Cocuzza, who helps to improve X-Fest from year to year, said he is proud of the festival and is sure the audience will be satisfied.

"If people came, I don't think they will be disappointed," Cocuzza said.

Jessica Oranika can be reached at [joranika@alestlelive.com](mailto:joranika@alestlelive.com) or 650-3525.



# Homecoming invites student organizations to turn up the 'e'

MADISON O'BRIEN  
Alestle Reporter

Get ready for a week full of competition and fun as this year's Homecoming turns up the 'e'.

Homecoming kicks off on Monday, Sept. 28, at 10:30 a.m. on the Stratton Quadrangle, with a chalk mural competition and free food. Polls will also be opening at 10 a.m. to vote for Homecoming King and Queen.

The night will come to an end at 8 p.m. with mysterious mind reader Eric Dittleman, in the Meridian Ballroom.

Tuesday at 11 a.m., Wing Stop presents: Turn up the Heat-Hot Wing Eating Contest on the quad. Then at 6 p.m., be sure not to miss the talent show taking place in the Meridian Ballroom,

where students will be showcasing their incredible abilities.

The events will continue Wednesday with the golf cart parade, starting at 4 p.m. Organizations on campus will deck out their rides and race down the quad. At 6:30 p.m., Student Government and Zeta Phi Beta sorority will host a bonfire at the Woodland Bowl, featuring a performance by the diverse and electric group, Dirty Muggs.

On Thursday, from 8 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Eddie the Cougar will be your personal Uber driver offering free rides to and from Lot P4. Then at 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. there will be Homecoming Karaoke in the Goshen Lounge.

Cheer on the women's soccer team Friday, Oct. 2 as they

face Jacksonville State at Korte Stadium at 7 p.m. The halftime show will feature Jeffery Waple, vice chancellor of Student Affairs. Following the game will be the homecoming dance in the Meridian Ballroom.

To finish off the weekend, the homecoming tailgate will start at 6 p.m. Saturday at Korte Stadium before the men's soccer game at 7 p.m. SIUE against Central Arkansas and the official homecoming coronation will take place during halftime.

For a complete listing of events during this year's homecoming week, visit [siue.edu/homecoming/events](http://siue.edu/homecoming/events).


Madison O'Brien can be reached at [mobrien@alestlelive.com](mailto:mobrien@alestlelive.com) or 650-3525.



Eddie the Cougar poses at last year's Homecoming bonfire.

| Photo via siue.edu

## Homecoming 'e'vents

<p><b>28</b></p> <p>10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Homecoming Kickoff Stratton Quadrangle</p> <p>8 p.m. Eric Dittleman: Mind Reader MUC Meridian Ballroom</p>	<p>11 a.m. Hot Wing Eating Contest Stratton Quadrangle</p> <p>6 p.m. Turn Up the Talent MUC Meridian Ballroom</p> <p><b>29</b></p>
<p><b>30</b></p> <p>4 p.m. - 6 p.m. Golf Cart Parade Stratton Quadrangle</p> <p>6:30 p.m. Homecoming Bonfire Woodland Bowl</p>	<p>8 a.m. - 10:30 p.m. Uber Eddie Lot P4</p> <p>11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. Homecoming Karaoke MUC Goshen Lounge</p> <p><b>1</b></p>
<p><b>2</b></p> <p>5 p.m. Soccer Pep Rally Vadalebene Center</p> <p>7 p.m. Women's Soccer vs. Jacksonville Korte Stadium</p> <p>9 p.m. - 12 a.m. Homecoming Dance MUC Meridian Ballroom</p>	<p>6 p.m. 14th Annual Chili Cook-off Korte Stadium</p> <p>7 p.m. Men's Soccer vs. Central Arkansas Korte Stadium Coronation at halftime</p> <p><b>3</b></p>
<p><b>4</b></p> <p>1 p.m. Women's Soccer vs. Belmont Korte Stadium</p>	<p>scan to see the full list of events</p> 

# Chrome Cats rise from the underground

MICHAEL ORANIKA  
Alestle Reporter

The Chrome Cats are a hip-hop duo consisting of 21-year-old Korland "K.J." Sims and his sister, 18-year-old Jamila Sims, born and raised in Vallejo, Calif. After grabbing the attention of Malaysian label LakeFront Records in 2010 with their YouTube single, "Don't Let Go," the Sims siblings became the first U.S. musicians to be signed to a Malaysian label. Since then, K.J. and Jamila have been making clean, snappy beats and gaining momentum in the world of music.

A typical Chrome Cats track consists of K.J.'s handwritten raps, coupled with music he and his sister developed. K.J.'s rather down-to-earth lyrics mixed with heavy bass and a bold melody create an upbeat, positive feel.

Some songs such as "Glow" and "Flight To



Korland "K.J." Sims and his sister, Jamila Sims produce music together as the Chrome Cats.

| Photo via Facebook

Paradise" are dominated by Jamila's often uplifting background vocals.

"We gotta live it up now, up now / Started from the bottom got a ways to go / But now we up now, up now / Got about a hundred ways to glow."

In their first popular hit, K.J. asks why he should let go of his dreams when they are all he has, while his sister

backs his lyrics through the chorus of "Don't Let Go."

"Let go, why would I? / Bounce, how could I? / You're the sun, the sky / I'm the kid with the good eye."

The Cats' early single, "It's All Good," acknowledges the importance of forgiveness with a smooth, flowing stream of lyrics.

"They pushed the

hate, I let it go / Time after time, held it in, I had to let 'em know / Day after day, I push hard, could never let it go / Race for the stripes, hit the lights, and I'm set to go."

Admittedly, much of the duo's music sounds better before their moderate claim to fame, when the siblings were just getting serious about making music. However, since their rise in popularity, the duo has definitely embraced the visual factor of their music. Their videos are full of vivid colors sending subliminal messages of happiness, peace and the love for music.

The Chrome Cats' music is available for streaming or download on Spotify, Soundcloud and iTunes. For videos and more information, visit [chromecats.com](http://chromecats.com).

Michael Oranika can be reached at [moranika@alestlelive.com](mailto:moranika@alestlelive.com) or 650-3525.

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Amy Hunter, director of racial justice for YWCA Metro St. Louis, is a dynamic speaker and a powerful advocate for the YWCA's two-prong mission of eliminating racism and empowering women. She has been instrumental in incorporating these themes into all of the organization's internal and external programming.

Visit [artsandissues.com](http://artsandissues.com) for more information about all the presentations in this year's CAS Colloquium on October 1st.



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# OPINION

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All hard copy letters should be typed and double-spaced. Letters should be no longer than 500 words. Include phone number, signature, class rank and major.

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The name Alestle is an acronym derived from the names of the three campus locations of Southern Illinois University: Alton, East St. Louis and Edwardsville.

The Alestle is published on Thursdays in print and on Tuesdays online during the fall and spring semesters. A print edition is available Wednesdays during summer semesters.

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## MONSTERS UNIVERSITY

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## Food for thought: Lack of healthy options, food needs variety

The semester is in full swing, and students are finding it even harder this year to find healthier options for meals on campus. With the renovation of Kyna's Grill, now named Boss Burger, to the more expensive prices of fruit and salads, students are likely to stray away from a healthy lifestyle.

### Alestle Staff Editorial

Before Boss Burger, Kyna's had a variety of menu items, ranging from wheat chicken wraps to black bean burgers. Students had several alternatives to a simple, greasy beef burger. Although the burger quality has improved significantly with the new update, the lack of menu options for lunch and dinner are disappointing and restrictive.

In terms of cost, it is cheaper to get a burger with fries rather than substituting them for apple slices or a yogurt parfait. While buying a burger and fries will cost around \$5 without the 60/40 discount, a burger and sliced apples will cost you around \$7. We are encouraged to eat healthier and make better food choices, but our limited budgets will not allow it.

Vegetarians and vegans are also severely limited, considering the only things available to them are the salad bar and select fruit cups, soups, or certain snack foods.

As a campus, we should be promoting healthy eating by lessening the prices of fruits and veggies

and providing more food options to accommodate all students.

Even serving new food items at Entrees could make all the difference. Whether it involves designating a certain day of the week to have several vegan or vegetarian foods available, or taking a poll to see what students would like to try, and then providing what was voted for the most, students would feel more satisfied and supported rather than confined by their food choices.

If we continue restricting students to select foods and enforcing higher prices, students are likely to disregard healthy eating entirely and grab what's faster, cheaper and more fattening.

By providing healthier options at less expensive prices for students, the university will be more proactive in providing for students as well as encouraging us to pursue healthy lifestyles now and in the future.

### Counterpoint

While the food selections at our university have recently become more limited, it is important to consider the circumstances a lot of people look past. At the moment, our university is going through a budget crisis that has impacted students, faculty and staff in various ways, one being the price we pay for our meals and the products the university can afford to provide.

For the past three years, Center Court has been continuously making adjustments to its food options, so it is not surprising that Kyna's Grill was discontinued and reopened as Boss Burger. Although

Kyna offered a variety of meals that fit the preferences of the student body, it is easy to argue that those meal options are what led to Kyna's demise for multiple reasons.

The first being that so many options meant having to order all of the products needed to make the meals. Imagine having to buy those ingredients in bulk, and not using it all because the amount of people interested in those options varied from week to week. You would essentially be taking the chance that your money could be wasted, and with a dwindling budget, there is no room for waste.

Another reason having so many things to choose from is problematic because the differing cooking times can slow down the process of fulfilling orders. In the past, Kyna tried to eliminate this issue by precooking most of the items it was selling but it still resulted in there being a long wait and overcrowded lines.

As far as food service goes, wait time is one of main complaints from customers, so making a simple, cost-effective choice to cut back to only one meal option improves the customer's experience by reducing wait time, which will keep them coming back. A testimony to this truth would be the amount of business still generated by Boss Burger even without the vegetarian and turkey burger options.

Places, such as a public university, are only responsible for providing meal options to its population, not pinpointing the exact preferences of every demographic

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represented at the university and delivering them on command. A notion this considerate is something that is not likely to pique the interest of decision makers at our university because regardless of who gets to eat what and who does not, they are still accomplishing the minimum requirements of their job, and therefore fulfilling their duties.

When considering healthy eating, the meals you have on campus should simply support that lifestyle, not be dependent on it. It is easy to expect the university to provide all of the things you need for livelihood, but in reality, you have to make your own efforts especially when you have dietary limitations and preferences that are not exactly traditional.

Aside from just healthy eating, the Student Fitness Center is also available to students, providing workout classes, weight rooms, exercise equipment and personal trainers to help you get your health up to par.

Also, if you cannot find what you want to eat on campus, there is always the opportunity for you to prepare and bring your own lunch. If you do not want to pay a little extra for sliced and packaged fruits, you could go to a grocery store and buy them fresh yourself or even settle for the cheaper whole fruit options also available in Center Court. It should be about how dedicated you are to the lifestyle, not how easy it is to pull off.

Read more staff editorials at [alestlelive.com](http://alestlelive.com)

## Teachers, use social media to your advantage

Earlier this semester, I heard an instructor in the mass communications department say social media is not a valid form of journalism and this is one sector of a view I have heard from many people over the past few years.

### Dani Wilson Alestle Sports Editor

From what I understand, this is a commonly held belief among people of older generations and some in our own — technology is ruining the world and social media is not valid for any useful purpose. Surely

I can understand and appreciate the negative effects social media has on society; however, I would like to present a different view of the situation.

During a 2011 earthquake that hit West Virginia, those who felt the tremor took to Twitter. If people tweet about their breakfast, why wouldn't they tweet about an earthquake? These tweets warned New Yorkers of the upcoming tremor a full 30 seconds before they felt the earthquake.

Another example would be when the Boston Marathon bombing took place. Through the extensive use of social media, people learned

about the bombing on Twitter and Facebook before any news organization knew what was happening. It wasn't until after these social media posts were published that news organizations had stories regarding the incident.

During emergency situations, Twitter can become a safe form of reporting and communicating due to the low bandwidth.

In a classroom, social media is potentially an instructor's worst nightmare. It allows a platform for students to complain about the class, share information before a teacher can control it and — heaven forbid — it

distracts students during class.

However, when used correctly, the picture social media constructs can look a lot different than this professor's opinion. Perhaps one of the most overlooked benefits to social media in the classroom is that everybody can participate in class discussions. Introverted students who may not otherwise raise their hand or speak up — and who may not be recognized if they do — can take to social media to voice their opinions and make comments on the subject matter.

Read more about social media at [alestlelive.com](http://alestlelive.com)



# SPORTS

Questions or comments regarding this section? Contact the Sports Editor at 650-3527 or sports@alestlelive.com.

9 // The Alestle

www.alestlelive.com

Thursday, September 24, 2015

## Jonsson, Desse impress at SIUE Fall Invite

DANI WILSON  
Alestle Sports Editor

The men's tennis team opened its fall season with the SIUE Fall Invitational Friday, Sept. 18 and Saturday, Sept. 19. Head Coach Jason Coomer said the team competed at a high caliber for its first tournament.

"The first tournament of the year, you never quite know what to expect; everyone is trying to get back in the swing of things. I was very pleased with how our guys competed and the level we played at this early in the season. That was very encouraging," Coomer said.

Coomer said he was particularly impressed with senior Marten Jonsson who, until recently, was recovering from past injuries.

"Marten Jonsson was certainly a bright star this weekend. [Jonsson] worked very hard over the summer, and he's been coming back from injuries from the past season. We didn't see any remnants of any injuries from the past and his hard work and dedication and discipline to get himself to this level was evident," Coomer said.

Another standout, according to Coomer, was sophomore Jack Desse. Coomer said Desse has vastly improved since his freshman season.

"We have a team of guys that are all capable of playing at very high levels. Jack Desse, without question, was an example of that this weekend. [Desse] has gone from a guy who was battling to be in the lineup last year to a guy this weekend who stepped in at

No. 3 for us and looked like he had been playing at that level for quite some time," Coomer said. "[Desse] is a player who we have high hopes for this season, and so far he has proven that he's going to be the player that we knew when we recruited him that he could be."

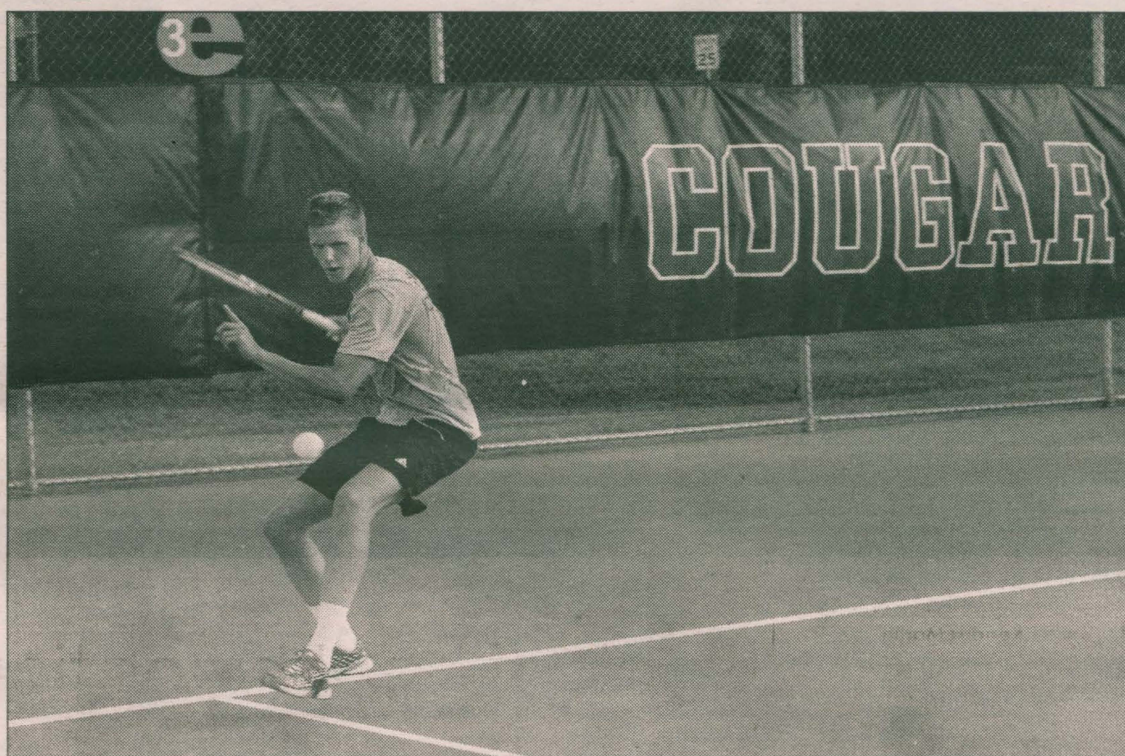
Coomer said the doubles competition this weekend showed promise for the Cougars, who are trying out different combinations in anticipation of the spring season.

"I would say this early in the season, this is probably the best we've ever played since I've been here. We'll still look at different combinations throughout the fall in preparation for the conference season, but for the first weekend, I was pleasantly surprised at how experienced we looked out on the court," Coomer said.

According to Coomer, the Cougars' doubles matchups are not yet solidified since there were team members who did not play.

"We have some different combinations that we want to look at in the fall. We typically look at different things during this part of the season to give us a better idea of what we want to do in the spring," Coomer said. "We currently have some players out with injuries that didn't compete this weekend that I believe can help us, and also we're still recruiting for this season."

Coomer said there are improvements the team will need to make in the coming months as they approach the conference season, but he is pleased with the



Senior Marten Jonsson in serve receive at the SIUE invitational Saturday, Sept. 20, 2015.

| Christian Sykes / Alestle

level at which the men are competing.

"There's a lot of things that we saw this weekend that we need to spend time on and correct, which you'd expect this early in the season. We were no different than the other three teams," Coomer said. "There were some mistakes we made that we won't be making in two weeks. That's to be expected. That's what the fall season is about, is to get back out there and identify some of those areas that we need to improve on."

The team will take two weeks off before its next event which Coomer said would provide tough competition for the Cougars.

"We've got the first tournament under our belts; we'll have two weeks off, then we'll get ready to get out to Omaha, which will be another very talented field of teams," Coomer said. "We purposely scheduled harder this year to help us prepare to get to where I think this team could be. Our guys are ready for the challenge, and they welcome the opportunity to play the best."

The Cougars will travel next to Omaha, Neb. for the Omaha Intercollegiate Championship hosted by Creighton University Friday, Oct. 2 through Sunday, Oct. 4.

Coomer said he has high hopes for the challenges that await the team.

"We're encouraged with where we're at right now, and we're excited about all the opportunities that are still out there that we've not uncovered yet," Coomer said.

Dani Wilson can be reached at dwilson@alestlelive.com.

## Cougars show promise in season opener

DANI WILSON  
Alestle Sports Editor

Cougar baseball opened its exhibition games with a 13-4 win against Wabash Valley College on their home field at the Simmons Baseball Complex on Friday, Sept. 20. Head Coach Tony

third strikes.

"When [Wabash Valley] scored their runs, it started with walks. I'd like to see us drop our walk total next game. We took a few pinches for strike three with men in scoring position, I'd like to see us eliminate that as well," Stoecklin said.

Stoecklin said the team

outfielder Dustin Woodcock, senior infielder Jacob Stewart, junior right-handed pitcher Connor Buenger and freshman right-handed pitcher Danny Ehram.

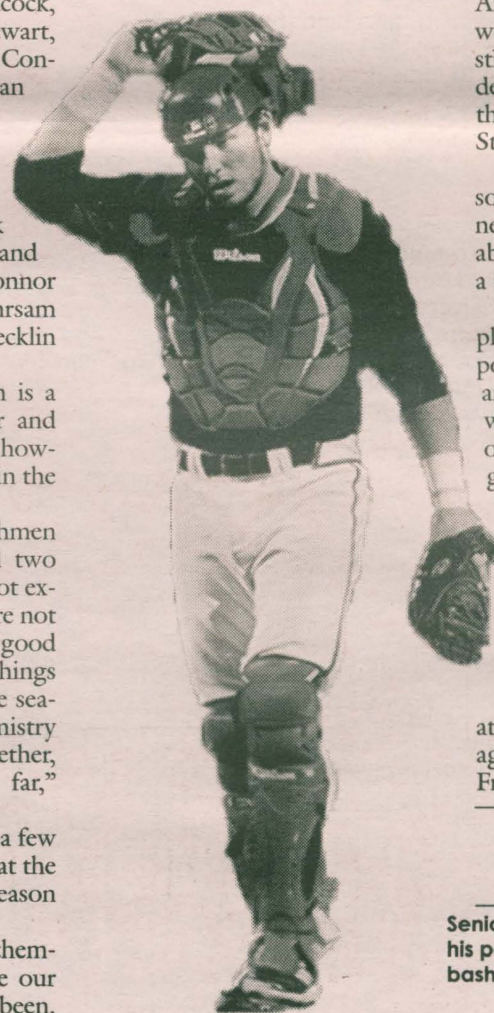
"Dustin Woodcock swung the bat extremely well; Jacob Stewart took a couple of nice at-bats, and on the mound, I think Connor Buenger and Danny Ehram threw extremely well," Stoecklin said.

Stoecklin said the team is a good combination of older and younger players that are showing good camaraderie early in the season.

"We started three freshmen in the game and only had two seniors play overall. We're not exactly an old team, [and] we're not a young team; we've got a good mix of all classes. So far, things are going good. Early in the season it's all about team chemistry and learning to come together, and we're doing that so far," Stoecklin said.

Stoecklin said there are a few strengths of the Cougars' that the team will rely on as the season progresses.

"I think our team chemistry is going to have to be our strength, and so far it has been.



And then our defensive pitching, we have to come out and throw strikes, and we have to play great defense. Those are the things that will be key to our winning," Stoecklin said.

The Cougars' exhibition season, according to Stoecklin, gives new players a chance to learn about collegiate play, especially as a Cougar.

"These fall games that we're playing basically [are] a great opportunity to give our young guys and our newcomers exposure to what it's like playing at home on a Friday night with a fairly good-sized crowd. Basically, it's just continuing to give those guys exposure and give them an understanding of what it's like to play at SIUE," Stoecklin said.

The baseball team will continue its exhibition season with another home game at Simmons Baseball Complex against Jefferson College 7 p.m. Friday, Sept. 25.

Dani Wilson can be reached at dwilson@alestlelive.com.

Senior catcher Zach Little returns to his post during the game against Wabash Valley College Friday, Sept. 20.

| Photo by Brian Munoz / Alestle

**"Early in the season it's all about team chemistry and learning to come together, and we're doing that so far."**

Tony Stoecklin  
SIUE Head Baseball Coach

Stoecklin said the game went well though there were small improvements that needed to be made.

"I thought we played well. There were some things we could do better, but for our first game of the fall, I'm happy with the way we played," Stoecklin said.

Stoecklin said the two main areas where the team needs improvement are the number of walks and the close chances on

showed good defensive play and maintained good energy throughout the game.

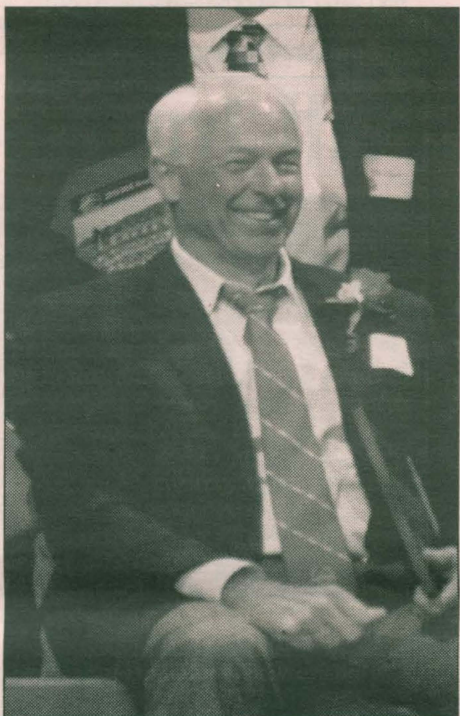
"I think overall as a team our energy and our defense [were] outstanding. I thought we maintained a good positive energy for nine innings, and we played great defense throughout the game," Stoecklin said.

According to Stoecklin, there were a few standout performances including sophomore



# SIUE ATHLETICS

Gary "Bo" Collins



Gary "Bo" Collins was SIUE's first baseball player to be drafted for professional play.

| Photo by Lashai Spencer /

Alestle

**MADISON O'BRIEN**  
Alestle Reporter

Gary Collins started playing baseball when he was just 7 years old, and little did he know that his baseball career would be so successful.

Collins started his baseball career not at SIUE, but at the University of Illinois.

"In 1965, things were different. There were not too many opportunities to get an academic or sports scholarship. I really didn't like the coach there, and U of I was very expensive," Collins said.

Collins transferred to SIUE his junior year mainly because it was inexpensive in comparison to U of I. He was recruited to become a member of the SIUE baseball team and played here for the rest of his college career.

After college, Collins was the first SIUE student drafted into the major leagues. He started out playing for the St. Louis Cardinals for two years before being traded to Washington for a portion of

a year.

"My professional career was good and bad. It was fun playing, but not fun when they release you. I think if I would have been a much better player and worked harder, they would have kept me around," Collins said.

After his professional career, Collins received an offer to be a graduate assistant and help coach under his former college baseball coach, Roy Lee.

"Roy inspired me to get into coaching more than anything. I saw how much he loved coaching and his players, so I wanted to give it a shot," Collins said.

Collins coached the team for 34 years, from 1979 to 2013.

"For awhile, you see winning as the most important part, but in my 34 years it was a great journey, win or lose. I met some really outstanding people. I had 500 players play for me, and [I] enjoyed being around 99 percent of them. They made it worthwhile, and even some of my best friends today are former players. I wouldn't change much about my experience," Collins said.

Collins' cumulative record consisted of 1,028 wins, 766 losses and seven draws. Collins also earned his thousandth win in 2011, a feat that has only previously been achieved by 55 other NCAA Division I coaches.

Collins even coached numerous players who went on to play professionally, including his head coach successor, Tony Stoecklin.

Collins retired from coaching in 2013. "It takes a lot of energy to coach a team, and I didn't have any full-time assistants until my last six years, so I had to do everything on my own for a while. Being on-field and in the action is the fun part, but it gets old after awhile," Collins said.

Today, Collins still comes out to support the Cougars if he's in the area.

Some of the players he coached are still playing, and he said he wishes them the best of luck.

Even though he is no longer coaching, he said he will not lose his love for the game.

Madison O'Brien can be reached at [mobrien@alestlelive.com](mailto:mobrien@alestlelive.com) or 650-3525

Kip & Mark Kristoff



Mark and Kip Kristoff were inducted into SIUE's Athletics Hall of Fame for their wrestling careers Saturday, Sept. 19.

| Photo by Lashai Spencer / Alestle

**DANI WILSON**  
Alestle Sports Editor

Brothers and teammates Mark and Kip Kristoff competed together for SIUE in 1986, Kip's freshman year and Mark's senior year. During both men's time at SIUE, their father, Larry Kristoff, coached them. Mark and Kip Kristoff were inducted into the SIUE Hall of Fame together on Saturday, Sept. 19.

Recalling the memories of his family travelling together to Chicago meets, Kip Kristoff said he used tough experiences to grow as an athlete and a person.

"Many times when we were little kids wrestling, tournaments were up in Chicago ... where the best competition was. I used to get beat up a lot. There was always something every day that I was doing to prepare myself and to become a better wrestler, a better student, a better athlete," Kip Kristoff said. "I always knew that I would have to outwork somebody, no matter what the score was in the second or third period; I knew I could always come back and always be competitive."

Kip Kristoff said he considers his father among his top coaches during his wrestling career.

"One of the best coaches we ever had was my father, who then took us on through college," Kip Kristoff said.

Kip Kristoff said his advice to current SIUE athletes includes persistence and determination toward any goal they may have.

"Just keep working hard. Do what you love to do. Try to keep on striving, and be the best that you can be with what you have. If you have the skills and you have the knowledge and you also have the determination that you can just keep on going and be successful, you can achieve. Find something that you love to do and keep on chasing that dream," Kip Kristoff said.

Mark Kristoff recalls spending most of his childhood on SIUE campus as it developed into what it is today.

"Being Cougars from the age of six on — Kip, I think was two — we grew up on

this campus, and we've seen these buildings grow," Mark Kristoff said.

Mark Kristoff said he is grateful to those who helped and led him throughout his time at SIUE.

"I basically grew up on this campus, never knowing where I was going to end up. The [opportunities] SIUE gave me is incredible. I can't say enough 'Thank you's' to the people who got me through the program here athletically and academically. I had help from day one that I entered as a Cougar to the day I graduated," Mark Kristoff said.

Mark Kristoff said his father's role as coach as well as his childhood history at SIUE solidified his choice of where to attend college.

"I thought I was going to be a Tar Heel. But when your dad's the coach, you're going to be a Cougar. That's all you're going to be. I'm glad I decided to come here because we ended up being one of the best teams in the nation regardless of the division we were in," Mark Kristoff said.

Competing at the collegiate level with their father as their coach, Mark Kristoff said the journey for him and his brother was difficult.

"When you compete for your father, it's not like the Little League coaches where you automatically play ... Here, the wrestling team was already established. Kip and I came in at a time where it was really taking off," Mark Kristoff said. "The teams that we came into were incredible. We had to earn our way. We weren't automatics walking in; we had to earn every step. When I tell you that we walked in bloody and beat up every single day, that's what it was."

Kip Kristoff said the induction comes as an honor for both of them.

"It's a great honor to have me and my brother be inducted into the SIUE Hall of Fame," Kip Kristoff said.

Dani Wilson can be reached at [dwilson@alestlelive.com](mailto:dwilson@alestlelive.com).

Valerie McCoy



"Work hard, play hard, because in 20 years, that's all you're going to remember. You're going to remember your teammates, you're not going to remember the wins and the losses."

Valerie McCoy

- Two-time All-American (2001-02)
- 220 career hits
- Career batting average of .357
- Started 228 games
- One of nine players to record 200 or more hits
- Three-time NFCA All-Region
- Two-time All-GLVC

Terri Evans



- No. 2 all-time scorer in SIUE women's basketball history
- 1,649 points in 108 games
- SIUE record of 496 assists
- third all-time record of 268 steals
- third all-time record of 172 three-point shots

Joe Reiniger



"I feel very fortunate to have played my entire college career here at a school with such rich soccer tradition."

Joe Reiniger

- No. 4 all-time in scoring for SIUE
- 37 goals, 19 assists 1989-92
- 13 seasons of professional indoor soccer
- Six-time NPSL/MISL All-Star
- More than 600 career goals



# 2015 HALL OF FAME

MADISON O'BRIEN  
Alestle Reporter

Although she grew up over 2,000 miles away, former softball player, Erin Newman left her mark on SIUE sports history.

Hailing from Fairfield, Calif., Newman developed a love for softball at a young age. "Growing up in California, it was hard to find a girl who didn't play softball. The weather was warm year-round, so we obviously got to play a lot more because we didn't have winter. After playing it for all those years, playing in college was the next logical step," Newman said.

Newman said she got recruited to play at SIUE.

"I sent in a videotape of me playing because no one could come out to California and see me. They saw my skills and wanted me on the spot," Newman said.

Newman knew she did not want to go to college and play softball in California, because she wanted to get out of her comfort zone.

"SIUE was always an option because my dad got his degree from there so it was one of my first universities to check out. I got a scholarship from SIUE and even though I had other offers from different schools, SIUE was exactly what I was looking for. When choosing colleges I was also looking for a good education and wanted a small town feel but loved that St. Louis was so close," Newman said.

Newman started out as a third baseman her freshman year and continued to play there the rest of her college career.

"SIUE was perfect, because I didn't have to wait until I was a senior to play because they needed a third baseman right then. I played every single game in college," Newman said.

Newman said playing softball in college was a tremendous character building experience.

"It was great fun, but definitely wasn't easy. It was a lot of hard work and growing for me both personally and athletically. I look back at it as something that is very important to me today, but something I never want to repeat," Newman said.

Newman graduated in 2003 with a degree in mass communications, but stopped playing softball in 2002.

"Many things made my experience playing great. It was nice when I made All-American twice and the friendships I've

Erin (Newman) Burns



Erin (Newman) Burns is a two-time All-American softball player who was inducted into the SIUE Athletics Hall of Fame on Saturday, Sept. 19. | Photo by Lashai Spencer / Alestle

made I still have to this day," Newman said.

Newman has not played softball since college, because of all the injuries she had gotten, such as a broken finger, multiple sprained ankles, torn ligaments in her left knee and shoulder surgery to name a few.

Today, Newman is currently living in New Hampshire, but said she loves to travel around the world.

"I married in the military so we travel a lot, but currently I am working as an assistant manager at a boutique in town. I want to see world with my husband, and I love reading and hiking," Newman said.

Newman had a passion for playing and was great at what she did.

"I had insecurities not knowing what my place was in this world, but when I stepped out on the field it all went away. I never hesitated; it was part of my persona I guess. It was the only place in entire world where I knew I was good at something, and that was a really comforting feeling. Anything worth doing is worth doing right, and all it takes is a little hard work," Newman said.

Madison O'Brien can be reached at mobrien@alestlelive.com or 650-3525.

JESSICA ORANIKA  
Alestle Reporter

SIUE welcomed Tim Tighe into the Athletic Hall of Fame Saturday, Sept. 19.

A St. Louis native, Tighe played soccer during his freshman year at St. Louis University in the mid '60s. In 1967, when his National Soccer Hall of Fame coach Bob Guelker left SLU and came to SIUE, he decided to follow suit. He has been in Edwardsville ever since.

"I was born and raised in St. Louis, came over to Edwardsville in the late '60s to play soccer and never left. I've been in Edwardsville for a long time," Tighe said. "I had originally played freshman soccer at St. Louis University with the legendary coach, Bob Guelker. When he decided to leave SLU and come to SIU-Edwardsville, he asked me to visit the campus, and basically recruited me. That's how I wound up at SIUE."

According to Tighe, in 1967, SIUE did not have a soccer team because they were a relatively new school. The goal of his coach was simple — to pioneer a soccer program.

"We started it from scratch; we were the first team. The goal was to start a program, get it going and make it entertaining. We have accomplished a great deal. I'm very proud of the program," Tighe said.

SIUE's premiere soccer team was wildly successful. Tighe said the most exciting memory of his cougar soccer days was in 1970 — the team didn't lose a single game that season.

"In 1970, we went undefeated 10-0. We beat every team we played, and we played some very good teams. I think we surprised a lot of teams we played because of our speed and our raw ballhandling," Tighe said.

Tighe said he established the Jack Blake Award to honor a close friend and former teammate of his upon his death. Jack Blake, who competed in the 1972 Olympics and was the first All-American and Olympian to come from the Cougar soccer team, was a great athlete and student according to Tighe.

"I've founded and sponsored the Jack Blake award for 19 years. My last year

## SPECIAL RECOGNITION:



of playing, I had the honor of being co-captain with a young guy by the name of Jack Blake. Jack became one of my lifelong friends. He was the first All-American at SIUE in soccer, the first Olympian from SIUE in soccer, and he and I were very close," Tighe said. "Unfortunately, he passed away at the young age of 47. My wife and I came up with the idea of, in memorial to Jack Blake, honoring a current player who emulated Jack. He was a great soccer player ... good student and a good representative of the university. He was a top-notch guy. It's a very highly regarded award."

Tighe still speaks highly of SIUE to this day. He applauds SIUE's athletic department, saying it is one of the best in the nation. Tighe said from the victories his team had during his days as a competitor, to the lifelong friends he has made, he's had a great time and supports SIUE soccer with pride.

"I've done everything I could for the program. SIUE has one of the greatest athletic departments I've ever seen. Brad Hewitt is probably one of the greatest athletic directors in the country, and we're lucky to have him," Tighe said. "This is a great university with even more greatness to attain. I've made lifelong friends from my playing years; we still get together and do things. It's been a wonderful, wonderful experience for me."

Jessica Oranika can be reached at joranika@alestlelive.com or 650-3525.

## 1991 Baseball



The 1991 SIUE baseball team set the record number of wins for Cougar baseball at 43 victories during their season.

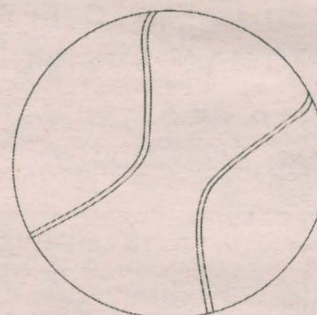
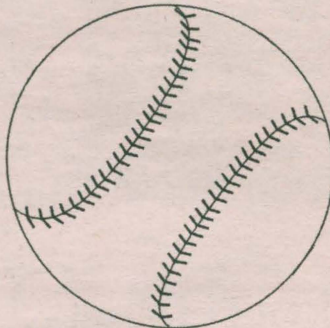
| Photo by Lashai Spencer / Alestle

## 1975 Men's Soccer



The 1975 men's soccer team earned their place in the SIUE Athletics Hall of Fame for being SIUE's first appearance at a Division I national championship game.

| Photo by Lashai Spencer / Alestle





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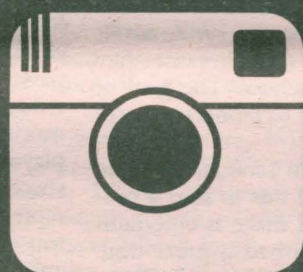


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# 2015 SCULPTURE ON CAMPUS

## Events Schedule

### Wednesday 9-23

11am- Public Lecture with artist  
12pm Patrick Dougherty.  
(Art and Design West Building, Rm. 1104)

### Friday 9-25

4pm Sculpture Walk  
(walk departs from lobby of Art and Design Building)

6pm S.O.C. Hors d'oeuvres & Awards  
(Art and Design West Building, Rm. 1104)

7-9pm Patrick Dougherty Opening Reception  
(SIUE Gallery, Art and Design West Building)

### Student Sculptors

Nicole Benner

Sarah Bohn

Brad Eilering

C Fleck

Shelby Fleming

Carrie Gillen

Alex Jacobs

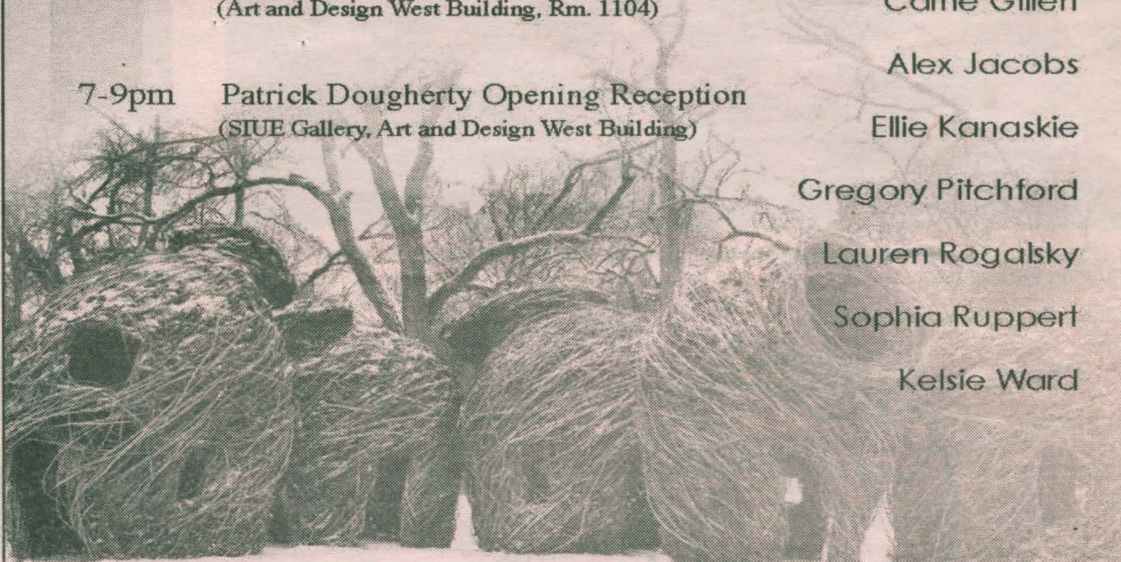
Ellie Kanaskie

Gregory Pitchford

Lauren Rogalsky

Sophia Ruppert

Kelsie Ward



*River Vessels* (2010) Waco Cultural Arts Festival, Waco, TX. Photo: Mark Rudolph

# Patrick Dougherty